IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A system comprising:

a security status detector disposed on an inside of an automation appliance, the security status detector detecting

~~an appliance-internal unit to detect~~ a current security status of ~~an~~ the appliance within which the detector is disposed;

an external ~~display~~ display disposed directly on an outside of the automation appliance, the external display displaying ~~to display~~ the current security status of the appliance directly on an outside of the appliance upon which the external display is disposed;

an internal display disposed on the inside of the automation appliance, the internal display displaying~~to display~~ the current security status of the appliance within ~~an~~ the inside of the appliance; and

a transmission unit to transmit security status data between other appliances in a network of appliances such that the current security status data can be subjected to data processing in the network of appliances.

2. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the appliances are automation appliances.

3. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the external display visually displays the current security status.

4. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an access unit to run automation user programs on the internal display.

5. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an internal-information base to provide access to the current security status from the network of

appliances via standard protocols, access to the current security status being provided by the internal display.

6. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a joint display to display an overall security status of a plurality of appliances, respectively having their internal displays linked.

7. (original) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the joint display is an external visual display.

8. (original) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein

there are a plurality of joint displays, each displaying the status of a different plurality of appliances, and

the overall security status is passed on from the joint display to a higher-level joint display that displays an overall security status of the appliances communicating with the joint displays.

9. (original) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein

there are a plurality of joint displays, each displaying the status of a different plurality of appliances, and

a server is provided for administration and display of the respective status of the joint displays.

10. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the current security status of the internal display can be simulated such that the internal display is active even without the appliance-internal unit detecting the current security status.

11. (original) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein

a portion of the appliances have internal security mechanisms,

a portion of the appliances are without internal security mechanisms, and

the system integrates appliances without internal security mechanisms with appliances that have internal security mechanisms.

12. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission unit transmits the current security status via an Intranet and/or the Internet.

13. (previously presented) A method for display and detection of a current security status of an appliance comprising:

detecting the current security status of the appliance;

displaying the current security status of the appliance on an outside of the appliance;

displaying the current security status of the appliance on an inside of the appliance; and

transmitting data between appliances in a network of appliances such that security status data can be subjected to data processing in the network of appliances.

14. (original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the appliances are automation appliances.

15. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the current security status is displayed visually.

16. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 13 wherein an access unit provides automation user programs with access an internal display unit that displays the current security status on the inside of the appliance.

17. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the current security status is checked by standard protocols via an appliance-internal information base.

18. (original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein

two or more appliances are linked, and

the method further comprises displaying an overall security status of the two or more appliances.

19. (original) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the overall security status is displayed externally and visually.

20. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein

the overall security status is displayed on a joint display,

there are a plurality of joint displays, each displaying the status of a different plurality of appliances, and

the overall security status is passed on from the joint display to a higher-level joint display that displays an overall security status of the appliances communicating with the joint displays the joint displays are linked to hierarchically higher-level joint displays.

21. (original) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein

the overall security status is displayed on a joint display,

there are a plurality of joint displays, each displaying the status of a different plurality of appliances, and

a server is provided for administration and display of the respective status of the joint displays the status of each of the joint displays is displayed and administered by at least one server.

22. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the current security status of an internal display unit can be simulated such that the appliance operates at an assumed security status when the current security status of the appliance cannot be detected.

23. (original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein

a portion of the appliances have internal security mechanisms,

a portion of the appliances are without internal security mechanisms, and

the method further comprises integrating appliances without internal security mechanisms with appliances that have internal security mechanisms.

24. (original) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the data is transmitted via an Intranet and/or the Internet.

25. (previously presented) An automation appliance for display of a current security status, having

an appliance-internal unit to detect the current security status of the appliance;

an external display to display the current security status of the appliance directly on an outside of the appliance; and

an internal display to display the current security status within an inside of the appliance in a format readable by other internal devices within the appliance.

26. (previously presented) The automation appliance as claimed in claim 25, wherein the external display visually displays the current security status.

27. (original) The automation appliance as claimed in claim 25, further comprising an access unit to run automation user programs on the internal display.

28. (previously presented) The automation appliance as claimed in claim 25, further comprising an internal-information base to provide external access to the current security status via standard protocols.

29. (original) The automation appliance as claimed in claim 25, wherein the internal display functions as an input for other devices within the appliance.